THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) to (e) Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) has been provided at stations serving metropolitan cities and also at few other stations for giving current status of reservation and train running position. The names of stations along with the telephone numbers are given below:—

Name of station	Telephone Nos.	
	Reservation Enquiry	Train running Position
Mumbai	2695959	2656565
Pune	636666	—
Nagpur	550139, 5500684	—
Howrah	136, 137& 138	131 & 1331
Patna	136	—
New Delhi	1330 & 1335	1330 & 1335
Jammu Tawi	421592	—
Lucknow	1330, 1335	—
Varanasi	348972, 348973,	—
	340171 & 340172	—
Madras	1361, 1362 & 1363	—
Tiruchchirappalli	1361, 1362 & 1363	—
Bangalore	1361, 1362 & 1363	—
Jaipur	—	133
Vijayawada	136	—

Besides, at other important stations, telephones have been provided for giving position regarding reservation status and train running position.

Financial assistance to Bihar for introducing vocational courses

1595. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are providing substantial financial assistance to Government of Bihar for introducing vocational courses in the schools at the higher secondary level;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the number of schools who have introduced vocational courses at the higher secondary level in the State as on date with district-wise details; and

(d) by when Government propose to introduce vocational courses in all the schools of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, following funds have been sanctioned to the Government of Bihar during the last three years:—

Year	Amount released (IN LAKHS)
1993-94	408.51
1994-95	157.87
1995-96	415.39

(c) and (d) The funds are released to the States based on the proposals received from them and the progress in implementation of the programme. The selection of the schools is also done by the State Governments. Accordingly on the basis of the proposals received from the State Government of Bihar, 753 vocational sections have been sanctioned in 251 schools of which State Government has operationalised 444 vocational sections in 151 schools spread out in all Districts.

Admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1596. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for admission in Kendriya Vidyalayas received during 1996-97 academic session and the number of applicants who got admission during the said period;

(b) whether the number of students seeking admission in Kendriya Vidyalaya is increasing rapidly;

(c) if so, the percentage of annual increase for the last five years;

[illegible] Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan can accord special dispensation admissions in excess of the stipulated 10% of the regular admissions made in the preceding year; and

(e) if so, the details and justification thereof?